

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Flame Engineering Inc. Honored for 13 Years with No Lost Time Accidents

Topeka, Kan. – The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) Secretary Lana Gordon recognized Flame Engineering Inc. of LaCrosse for reaching 13 years with no lost time accidents. Lost time accidents implies a non-fatal accident that causes any loss of time from work. KDOL Secretary Lana Gordon presented company officials a certificate during a special ceremony attended by management and staff members.

In the mid 1950's, Ralph C. Pivonka and his son, Mike, designed a propane torch for burning weeds and brush on their Kansas family farm. As word spread about their flaming equipment, they found themselves building more and more torches to satisfy a growing local demand. The Pivonkas outgrew their farm workshop and established Flame Engineering Inc., which now employs 27 workers and has expanded its product line to over 100 items.

Flame Engineering has also been part of the Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) company since October of 2000, a designation which remains in effect today.

SHARP provides incentives and support to small, high-hazard employers to work with their employees to develop, implement and continuously improve the effectiveness of their workplace safety and health programs. Companies that have qualified for SHARP can participate in the SHARP Association, a self-governing group that serves members by networking about workplace safety and mentoring one another through idea sharing. For more information on the SHARP program go to <http://www.dol.ks.gov/Safety/SharpProgram.aspx>.

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